

Reflection Friday 3rd Week Advent 2022

John the Baptist was a shining lamp preparing people to meet Jesus and become his followers. He is what we would call a man of integrity: a person who adheres to moral and ethical principles; possesses a sound moral character and is honest.

CONSIDER THIS: Our lives are the only scriptures some people will ever read. For many, we are the only edition of the Bible.

- Watch your thoughts; they become words.
- Watch your words; they become actions.
- Watch your actions; they become habits.
- Watch your habits; they become character.
- Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.
- Plant honesty and you will reap trust
- Plant goodness and you will forge authentic friendships
- Plant humility and you will reap depth
- Plant perseverance and you will reap contentment and deep joy
- Plant consideration and you will reap right vision and perspective
- Plant hard work and you will reap real success
- Plant forgiveness and you will reap reconciliation and possible new beginnings

Pope Francis: *The Gospel calls individual Christians to live lives of honesty, integrity and concern for the common good... to create circles of integrity... networks of solidarity which can expand to embrace and transform society by their prophetic witness.*

The family remains the basic unit of society and the first school in which children learn the human, spiritual and moral values which enable them to be a beacon of goodness, integrity and justice in our communities.

The people of the Philippines have been asked to respond to the papal challenge to live simply, and appeal to their political leaders to live with honesty, integrity, and commitment to the common good so that the nation's resources be used to benefit the people, especially the poor, in a culture where the human rights and dignity of everyone are cherished and respected, and justice is done whatever their station in life.

A magazine editor interviewed a billionaire about his success.

Editor: "Sir, during your life, you made an outstanding fortune. How did you do it exactly?"

Billionaire: "I started a business of messenger pigeons"

Editor: "Pigeons that deliver mail. That's great! How many have you sold?"

Billionaire: "Just one. But she always came back."

